COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF:

THE CONSIDERATION OF LIFELINE RATES
AS REQUIRED BY SECTION 114 OF THE
PUBLIC UTILITY REGULATORY POLICIES ACT

ADMINISTRATIVE CASE NO. 248

- (a) Kentucky Utilities Company
- (b) Louisville Gas and Electric Company
- (c) Union Light, Heat and Power Company
- (d) Kentucky Power Company

ORDER

The Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (PURPA) requires the Public Service Commission to determine whether lifeline rates should be implemented by each of the four PURPA covered utilities - Kentucky Power Company, Kentucky Utilities Company, Louisville Gas and Electric Company, and Union Light, Heat and Power Company. Section 114 (b) of PURPA further states that the determination should be made after an evidentiary hearing. Section 3(6) of PURPA defines an evidentiary hearing for a state agency as "a proceeding which (i) is open to the public, (ii) includes notice to participants and an opportunity for such participants to present direct and rebuttal evidence and to cross-examine witness, (iii) includes a written decision, based upon evidence appearing in a written record of the proceeding, and (iv) is subject to judicial review."

It is not presently clear to the Commission the extent of the interest for additional lifeline hearings. Also it is not clear as to what forum could best be employed to meet the needs of the Commission, consumers and utility companies. Therefore, the Commission proposes to hold a prehearing conference on June 19, 1981, at 9:00 a.m. in the hearing room of the Commission, 730 Schenkel Lane, Frankfort, Kentucky.

At that time, the Commission plans (1) to determine the extent of the interests in lifeline proceedings for the four PURPA-covered utilities; (2) to establish a hearing date or dates for the evidentiary hearing; and (3) to develop a forum that will best meet all of the parties' needs.

IT IS ORDERED that the four utilities identified above as covered by PURPA Section 102 be present at the June 19, 1981, prehearing conference. They will be asked for suggestions on hearing dates and on a forum and procedure to be utilized in the consideration of lifeline rates.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 20th day of May 1981.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Marlin n. Vok

Katherine Bandall Vice Chairman

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ATTESTED TO: